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Wage Cost Index and Average Weekly Earnings

WAGE COST INDEX AND AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The Wage Cost Index (WCI) is a price index which measures changes over time in wage and salary costs for employee jobs, unaffected by changes in the quality and quantity of work performed. ABS also produces the Average Weekly Earnings (AWE) series. This survey can be affected by factors such as compositional shifts in the labour market and changes in the hours worked by employees. To encourage the use of the WCI, which gives a better indication of changes in wage costs, the timing of the WCI publication will be brought forward and the AWE preliminary publication (Cat. no. 6301.0) will cease. The next WCI release (Cat. no. 6345.0) is due on 16 May and the next AWE release (Cat. no. 6302.0) is due on 17 May.

Measuring Australia's Progress

MEASURING AUSTRALIA'S PROGRESS

The Measuring Australia's Progress project will present an analysis based on 15 key indicators addressing the sustainability of economic growth and the inter-relationships between the economy, society and the environment. A seminar on the progress of the project will be held at ABS NSW on 3 May. To attend the seminar, contact Cameron Sach on (02) 9268 4376, email c.sach@abs.gov.au. For further information on the project, contact Ken Tallis on (02) 6252 7290, email ken.tallis@abs.gov.au.

Labour Force Survey Redesign

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY REDESIGN

The Labour Force Survey questionnaire has been redesigned to better reflect current labour market phenomena. Use of the new form will commence with the April survey. A new publication entitled **Information Paper, Implementing the Redesigned Labour Force Survey Questionnaire** (Cat. no. 6295.0), is due for release on 3 May. As part of the questionnaire implementation, key labour force series will be backcast to April 1986 and an additional review of seasonal factors will be conducted. For information about revised data or the seasonal reanalysis, contact Michael Johnson on (02) 6252 7507, email michael.johnson@abs.gov.au.

Indigenous Identification in Population Survey

INDIGENOUS IDENTIFICATION IN POPULATION SURVEY

A new Household Form for use in the Monthly Population Survey, is being phased in from April to November. It will include an Indigenous origin question for the first time, thus enabling labour force data on Indigenous persons to be collected in all twelve months of each year beginning in 2002.

Survey of Employee Arrangements and Superannuation

SURVEY OF EMPLOYEE ARRANGEMENTS AND SUPERANNUATION

First results are due for release in **Employee Arrangements and Superannuation, Australia, April to June 2000** (Cat. no. 6361.0) on 29 March. Information is presented by selected socio-demographic characteristics and includes employment arrangements such as type of worker, job duration, working patterns, extra hours worked and whether or not workers are contributing to or receiving money from superannuation.

Environment and Energy

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

The first issue of **Australia's Environment: Issues and Trends** (Cat. no. 4613.0) is due for release on 12 April. This annual publication will present a broad selection of environmental statistics on topical issues. Content will vary from year to year, as new environmental issues emerge. **Energy Accounts, Australia** (Cat. no. 4604.0) is due for release on 21 March. It is part of a series of physical environmental accounts and presents data on energy stocks and flows of energy resources through economic sectors.

Survey of Education, Training and Information Technology

SURVEY OF EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

This survey will be conducted in 2001, collecting information on individual access to, and experience in, education and training, and information on the links between education, training and employment. It will repeat the content of the 1997 Survey of Education and Training, with the addition of questions on household use of information technology, and the use of the new Australian Standard Classification of Education. For further information contact John Sever on (02) 6252 6660, email john.sever@abs.gov.au.

Internet Activity

INTERNET ACTIVITY

The first issue of **Internet Activity, Australia** (Cat. no. 8153.0) is due for release on 21

March. It contains details of Internet activity facilitated by Internet Service Providers (ISPs) in Australia including characteristics and location of ISP customers and their Internet usage. Broad level statistics include the number of business and private Internet subscribers. The second issue of 8153.0 is due out on 2 April.

Voluntary Work

VOLUNTARY WORK

A Voluntary Work Survey was conducted in 2000, with results due for release by June this year, the International Year of the Volunteer. Minor changes have been made to the previous 1995 questionnaire, particularly to identify voluntary work connected with the Olympic Games. For further information contact Deborah Dawkins on (02) 6252 7361, email deborah.dawkins@abs.gov.au.

Rural Statistics

RURAL STATISTICS

The **Directory of Rural Statistics** (Cat. no. 1142.0) is due for release on 20 March. It replaces the **Directory of Agricultural Statistics** (Cat. no. 7217.0). The name change reflects a broadening of the scope of the publication. Information is given on sources of agricultural and rural statistics in the public and private sectors. For each data source there is information on the method of collection, geographic coverage and frequency of publication of the data.

Census 2001 - 7 August

CENSUS 2001 - 7 AUGUST

The **Census Dictionary** (Cat. no. 2901.0), due for release in April, will provide details of concepts, classifications and terms used in the 2001 Census of Population and Housing.

More than 7,300 census collectors will be recruited across NSW for the Census. Collectors will be employed part-time from 2 July to 31 August and need good communication skills, access to a phone and secure vehicle, and a secure place to store confidential census material. Application forms can be obtained from Australia Post outlets and agencies from 17 March with applications closing on 9 April. For more information on census recruitment or other census-related news please visit www.abs/census.gov.au.

Year Book Australia

YEAR BOOK AUSTRALIA

A special edition of **Year Book, Australia, 2001** (Cat. no. 1301.0) was released on 25 January as the ABS's contribution to the Centenary of Federation. For this special edition, the ABS invited a small number of distinguished Australians to contribute articles about issues that have concerned Australians at various times during the last century. The CD-ROM version of the Year Book contains additional material, including a selection of historical Year Book articles.

Year Book NSW

YEAR BOOK NSW

Year Book, New South Wales, 2001 (Cat. no.1301.1) is due for release on 28 March. It provides extensive information on New South Wales in the form of text, tables, maps and graphs. Separate chapters address history, physical environment, government, demography, social welfare, education and training, health, law and order, labour, transport, communication and technology, housing and construction, agriculture, mining and energy, manufacturing, service industries, and finance and commerce.

Regional Statistics

REGIONAL STATISTICS

Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, 1999-00 (Cat. no. 3218.0) was released on 20 February. It contains details of estimated population growth for Local Government Areas, Statistical Local Areas, Statistical Subdivisions and Statistical Divisions. State and Territory specific tables and commentary are included, as well as population estimates for New Zealand's Regions and Territorial Authorities. For more information contact Melissa Webb (02) 9268 4744, email m.webb@abs.gov.au.

Indigenous Health

INDIGENOUS HEALTH

Selected data on the health of the Indigenous population of Australia, compiled from the 2001 National Health Survey (NHS), are expected to be available from October 2002 in the form of a publication.

Employee Earnings and Hours

EMPLOYEE EARNINGS AND HOURS

Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia, May 2000 (Cat. no. 6306.0) is due for release on 27 March. This publication contains the first ever set of comprehensive statistics on award and agreement coverage released by the ABS. For further information contact Michael Sleap on (08) 9360 5386, email m.sleap@abs.gov.au.

Social Wellbeing

SOCIAL WELLBEING

Measuring Social Wellbeing, 1999 (Cat. no. 4160.0) is due for release on 1 June. It is a textbook of social statistics which examines Australian and international developments over the last 15 years. It then looks at each major area of social statistics in turn, identifying currently available statistics and key social policy needs. This information appeared previously in the non-ABS publication **A Guide to Australian Social Statistics**.

Statistical Training

STATISTICAL TRAINING

Statistical training courses offered by ABS NSW in 2001 include: Introduction to Statistics, Introduction to Sampling Techniques, Principles of Questionnaire Design, Basic Survey Design, Analysing Survey Data Made Simple, Turning Data Into Information and Producing Statistics from Administrative Data Collections. The next scheduled course is Introduction to Statistics on 10 to 12 April. For further information about training courses contact Naomi Millar on (02) 9268 4675, email naomi.millar@abs.gov.au.

Electronic Data Dissemination

ELECTRONIC DATA DISSEMINATION

AusStats is a web based service updated daily at 11:30 am, providing access to the latest facts and figures about the nation. AusStats contains extensive linking between related information, full text search, bookmarking facility and lots more. AusStats is only available by subscription with options starting at \$1,080. For further information contact ABS on 1300 135 070, email client.services@abs.gov.au. Overseas clients please call 61 2 9268 4909.

The **Directory of Statistical Sources**, which is currently under development, will provide a comprehensive web site directory facility, guiding clients to collection information for both ABS and non-ABS collections. This is part of the ABS commitment to a National Statistical

Service (NSS). It is anticipated that the Directory will be released by the end of May.

Historical Publications 2000 (Cat. no. 1124.0) on CD-ROM is scheduled for release in June. It contains images of every printed publication produced by the ABS in the 2000 calendar year. Accompanying software enables the retrieval, viewing and printing of any page from these publications. The publications are provided in Acrobat Format (PDF) and can be accessed by ABS catalogue number, broad subject and release date.

Selected Releases

SELECTED RELEASES

SELECTED RELEASES JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2001	
To order ABS publications please contact the ABS Bookshop on (02) 9268 4620 For the ABS National Information Service call 1300 135 070.	
1301.0	Year Book, Australia, 2001 (\$80.00)
1360.0	Measuring Australia's Economy, 2001 (\$46.00)
3218.0	Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, 1999-2000 (\$31.00)
3401.0	Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, January 2001 (\$18.50)
4103.0	Population Survey Monitor, November 2000 (\$17.50)
4220.0	Schools, Australia, Preliminary, 2000 (\$18.50)
4712.0 new	Australian Housing Survey: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Results (\$25.00)
6203.0	Labour Force, Australia, January 2001 (\$26.00)
6222.0	Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia, 2000 (\$21.00)
6523.0	Income Distribution, Australia, 1999-2000 (\$24.00)
7506.0	Agricultural Industries, Financial Statistics, Australia, Preliminary, 1999-2000 (\$17.00)
8147.0	Use of the Internet by Householders, Australia, November 2000 (\$17.50)
8501.0	Retail Trade, Australia, December 2000 (\$18.50)
8634.0	Tourism Indicators, Australia, September 2000 (\$27.00)
8731.1 to 8731.7	Building Approvals, all States and Territories, December 2000
8752.1 to 8752.8	Building Activity, all States and Territories, September 2000
SELECTED EXPECTED RELEASES MARCH AND APRIL 2001	
Release dates for Major Economic Indicators can be obtained from the ABS web site. On the Welcome Page go to Releases out soon .	
1142.0	Directory of Rural Statistics, 2001 (\$41.00)
1301.1	Year Book, New South Wales, 2001 (\$47.00)
1307.1	Economic Indicators, New South Wales, March 2001 and April 2001 (\$33.00)
1350.0	Australian Economic Indicators, April 2001 (\$33.00)

1353.0	Integrated Regional Database (IRDB), Australia, 2001 (POA)
2901.0	Census Dictionary, 2001 (\$32.00)
3101.0	Australian Demographic Statistics, September 2000 (\$22.00)
3105.0.65.001 new	Australian Historical Population Statistics on AUSSSTATS (POA)
4604.0	Energy Accounts, Australia, 1992-93 to 1997-98 (\$37.00)
4613.0 new	Australia's Environment: Issues and Trends (\$33.00)
4902.0 new	Australian Culture and Leisure Classifications (\$38.00)
5206.0	Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product, December 2000 (\$24.00)
5206.0.40.001	Australian National Accounts: Quarterly State Details, December 2000 (\$43.00)
5232.0	Australian National Accounts: Financial Accounts, December 2000 (\$26.00)
6201.1	Labour Force, New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory, February 2001 (\$24.00)
6203.0	Labour Force, Australia, February 2001 (\$26.00)
6306.0	Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia, May 2000 (\$25.00)
6361.0 new	Employee Arrangements and Superannuation (\$22.00)
6401.0	Consumer Price Index, Australia, March 2001 (\$19.50)
8153.0	Internet Activity, Australia (\$18.00)

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About this release

Statistics News NSW provides the latest information about ABS statistics including new developments, seminars and reviews.

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